

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 98-8-10**

Date Prepared: August 6, 1998

For Work Week Commencing: August 10, 1998

Business Meeting: August 10, 1998, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, placed on the state electronic bulletin board, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.mt.gov>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).

1. Cenex Docket D98.6.116 – Cenex Pipeline – Action on Final Order (8/11/98)
2. Natural Gas Utility USBP (Universal System Benefits Program) – Status report on natural gas USBP filings, direction, action as necessary, if necessary (8/11/98)
3. Natural Gas Suppliers Licenses – Update to PSC, discussion, direction, and action as necessary on all pending license applications (8/11/98)
4. MDU Docket D98.4.82 – MDU monthly tracker annual true-up – Discussion and direction or action on draft NCA and draft final order (8/11/98)

5. MPC Docket D98.2.28 – MPC gas pilot program – Discussion and direction or action on draft final order (8/11/98)
6. USWC Docket D97.5.87 – USWC 271 compliance – Discuss any matters necessary regarding special master review of pending discovery dispute. Action as necessary, if necessary (8/11/98)
7. USWC Docket D96.12.220 – USWC Rate Rebalancing – As needed to discuss issues – a placeholder (8/11/98)
8. USWC Docket N98.8.175 – USWC Forbearance Filing - Discuss Mid-River's objection to USWC's filing (8/11/98)

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY – Docket N98.7.167 (Tina)

On July 23, 1998, Sprint Communications Company filed changes to its Montana PSC Price List No. 1. The changes are to decrease Spree Prepaid FONCARD, decrease Sprint/Kroger Prepaid Calling Card, and make changes to Directory Assistance. The Directory Assistance changes specify that a fee will apply whether or not the DA operator furnishes the requested number. An option is also being added to allow the customer to complete a call to the number received from DA without hanging up and dialing the number. A call completion charge applies in addition to the DA per-call charge if the customer accepts this offer. Staff recommends approval.

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda.

1. PROJECT TELEPHONE CO – Docket N98.8.173 (Tina)

On August 4, 1998, Project Telephone Co filed changes to its Vacation Service tariff. Reference to operator service is eliminated and clarification is made to the text relating to restoral of service.

2. VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS – Docket N98.8.174 (Tina)

On August 4, 1998, Valley Telecommunications filed changes to its Vacation Service tariff. Reference to operator service is eliminated and clarification is made to the text relating to restoral of service.

3. PROJECT TELEPHONE CO – Docket N98.8.176 (Tina)

On August 5, 1998, Project Telephone Company filed for a boundary change to the Crow Agency exchange to serve a customer who had no service.

4. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N98.7.166 (Vicki)

On July 22, 1998, US West filed tariff pages adding features to the list of services available in the business packages. Optional Calling Plans will include two new features: Business Daytime Connection Plus; and Volume Calling Connection. Listing Services will include: Internet E-mail White Page Listing; and Internet URL (website address) White Page Listing.

5. CENTRAL MONTANA COMMUNICATIONS, INC. - Docket N98.7.171(Vicki)

On July 30, 1998, Central Montana Communications filed tariff pages decreasing the internet plans' rates and adding new rates.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 98-8-17

Project Telephone Co – Docket N98.9.176 (Tina)
Valley Communications – Docket N98.8.174 (Tina)
Project Telephone Co – Docket N98.8.173 (Tina)
Central Montana Communications, Inc. - Docket N98.7.171 (Vicki)
US WEST Communications - Docket N98.7.166 (Vicki)

New Filings Received in Past Week

D98.7.170 – USWC – Resale Agreement
N98.7.171 – Central Mt Communications – Tariff filing
N98.8.172 – Duke Energy – Electricity Supply License Application
N98.8.173 – Project Telephone – Tariff filing
N98.9.174 – Valley Telecommunications – Tariff filing
N98.8.175 – USWC – Forbearance Application
N98.8.176 – Project Telephone – Proposed boundary change
N98.8.177 – Montana-Dakota Utility – Application to implement USB Program